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**Herbert D. Long, Th.D.**

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RECEIVED

**October 17, 2007**

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Bureau of Land Management  
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office  
333 SW 1st Avenue  
Portland, OR 97208

Dear BLM:

As one who anticipates taking up residence along Cow Creek Road near Azalea, I'm writing you out of a deep concern that actions you are contemplating will reverse the Northwest Forest Plan finalized in 1994. These contemplated actions jeopardize not only the hunting grounds for the northern spotted owl, but also significant stands of old growth forests that aid in inhibiting global warming while also providing a hospitable environment for clean water and a variety of animal and fish species.

One of the arguments put forward in support of your plan is that the timber sales will aid local governments in meeting shortfalls for infrastructure expenses, libraries and other services. These are important issues that need to be addressed but it is short sighted to think that a relatively brief upsurge in timber sales will solve them over the long haul. It neglects the long-term effects on the overall quality of life that would result from losing old growth stands and the animal and fish species they support while mostly benefiting mill operators for a brief time.

It is of profound concern to me and many others that your proposed plans will result in thousands of acres of scarred land, land that otherwise supports clean water and salmon, high quality drinking water, and varieties of wildlife including elk, black bears and threatened species.

It is also of profound concern that implementing your plans will result in economic hardship beyond the hardships imposed by limiting the amount of timber cut. Creating over a 1,000 miles of new logging roads, for example, will reduce property values of those lands adjacent to them. So will the resulting increase in noxious, invasive weeds and wildlife species predicted under the Western Oregon Plan Revisions.

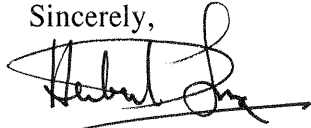
I don't know about you, but for me – and I know I'm not alone – our public forests are a national treasure, one that I need for my own sanity at a time when economic greed (and I too have a greedy side that needs reigning in) runs rampant and threatens daily to

undermine our quality of life. Our forests serve not just as a retreat from a hectic life, but are a critical balance to the pace of urban life. They contribute both to our physical and mental health as a people.

I therefore urge you to adopt a plan that preserves our old growth forests and at the same time restores forests that have been degraded. Judiciously thinning smaller trees in forests that were clear cut years ago and then overstocked would both contribute to healthy forests and provide more than two billion board feet of commercially valuable timber.

I urge you to reconsider the WOPR and lend your wisdom to the larger vision of serving both present and future generations of people and animals who depend for their health and wellbeing on the health of our forests. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Herbert D. Long', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Herbert D. Long, Th.D.

CC: Oregon Congressional delegation

Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith  
Representatives Earl Blumenhauer; Peter DeFazio; Greg Walden; Darlene Hooley; and  
David Wu